



DRAFT
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Guidance for Documenting Your Evaluation of Geospatial Data Sensitivity

Evaluation of your data sets should be based on criteria provided by Indiana Code 5-14-3, the RAND Report: Mapping the Risks Assessing the Homeland Security Implications of Publicly Available Geospatial Information, and the FGDC Guidelines for Providing Appropriate Access to Geospatial Data in Response to Security Concerns. The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency contracted with the RAND Corporation to develop a framework to assist in assessing these potential risks. The Homeland Security Working Group (HSWG) was established under the auspices of the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) to serve as the focal point for identification of metadata, information content, symbology, interface specifications, and other guidelines, specifications, and standards for geospatial information technologies required to support activities under the general heading of homeland security. The HSWG is co-chaired by The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) under the authority of OMB Circulars A-16, A-119, and A-130, and Executive Order 12906.

Document Your Evaluation

Once a data set has been evaluated for content sensitivity, you should document when and how the geospatial data set was evaluated. This will let people know that data sensitivity was considered, what methods were used to evaluate the data set, and what action was taken (if any). Clearly label any restrictions on the media itself, in metadata, and/or license, agreement or other instrument that accompanies the data. If you are a Public agency, this documentation will help you fulfill your responsibilities identified in IC 5-14-3-4.

You can document these things in the metadata record for the data set as follows: In the metadata record, under "Identification Information > Use Constraints" include the following text:

Identification Information

Use Constraints

"<NAME_OF_DATA> data set was evaluated by <INSERT authority for action> for content sensitivity on <DATE> following the criteria provided by Indiana Code 5-14-3, the RAND Report "Mapping the Risks" and the FGDC "Guidelines for Providing Appropriate Access to Geospatial Data in Response to Security Concerns".

The following potential concerns were identified: <INSERT potential concerns OR "None">.

The findings determined by the use of the guidelines is as follows: <INSERT findings>.

The following actions were taken: <INSERT one of the following "none", "parts of graphic and/or attribute data were filtered", "data were restricted from public distribution", "confidential and not subject to public disclosure under IC 5-14-3-4(19)(I) without approval of (insert name of submitting public agency)" or free text>.

